

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data management method using a network system which includes a server, a client terminal and a plurality of data servers, comprising:

a reception step of making the server receive a user's data storage request and data to be stored from the client terminal;

a select step of making the server automatically select data servers for storing the data from the plurality of data servers, the selected data servers including a at least one data server located in an area which is different from an area of user's address registered by the user of the client terminal and a data server located in an area with a low disaster rate of occurrence; and

a storage step of making the server send the data associated with the data storage request to the selected at least one data server servers, and store the data in the selected at least one data server servers.

Claim 2-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

a step of making the server acquire disaster information from a disaster information database that provides disaster information, and search for [[an]] the area with a low disaster rate of occurrence on the basis of the acquired disaster information for selecting the server in the select step, and

~~wherein the select step includes the step of:~~

~~making the server select at least the data server located in a different area from the area of the user's address, and the data server located in the area with the low disaster rate of occurrence.~~

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[3]] 1,
further comprising:

a step of making the server encrypt the data associated with the data storage request, and

wherein the storage step includes the step of:

making the server send the data encrypted by different methods to the respective data servers, and store the data in the data servers

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5,
further comprising:

a step of making the server periodically acquire the encrypted data
from the data servers;

a step of making the server decrypt the acquired data; and

a step of making the server compare the decrypted data.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1,
further comprising:

a step of making the server send to the client terminal ~~an address~~ addresses of the data server servers that stores store the data.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, further
comprising:

a step of making the server send to the client terminal ~~an address~~ addresses of the data server servers that ~~stores~~ store the data, and a key used to decrypt the encrypted data.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein information of the ~~[[the]]~~ user's address is pre-stored in the server.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

a step of making the data server receive a user's data transmission request from the client terminal; and

a step of making the data server send data associated with the data transmission request to the client terminal.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): A server comprising:
reception means for receiving a user's data storage request and data to be stored sent from a client terminal;

select means for automatically selecting data servers for storing the data from a plurality of data servers, the selected data servers including a at least one data server located in an area which is different from an area of user's address registered by the user of the client terminal and a data server located in an area with a low disaster rate of occurrence; and

sending means for sending the data ~~associated with the data storage request~~ to the ~~at least one~~ selected data server servers via a communication line.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A computer program for making a computer function as:

reception means for receiving a user's data storage request and data to be stored sent from a client terminal ~~via a communication line~~;

select means for automatically selecting data servers for storing the data from a plurality of data servers, the selected data servers including at least one data server located in a ~~different an~~ area which is different from an area of user's address registered by the user of the client terminal and a data server located in an area with a low disaster rate of occurrence; and

sending means for sending the data ~~associated with the data storage request~~ to the ~~at least one~~ selected data server servers via a communication line.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A data management system including a control server, a client terminal, and a plurality of data servers, which can communicate with each other via a communication line,

said control server comprising:

reception means for receiving a user's data storage request and data to be stored sent from the client terminal;

select means for automatically selecting data servers for storing the data from the plurality of data servers, the selected data servers including a at least one data server located in an area which is different from an area of user's address registered by the user of the client terminal and a data server located in an area with a low disaster rate of occurrence; and

sending means for sending the data ~~associated with the data storage request~~ to the ~~at least one~~ selected data server servers, and

said data server comprising:

means for storing the data sent from said control server.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The server according to claim 12, wherein said select means automatically selects the ~~at least one~~ data server based on the user's service subscription qualification level.

Claim 16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (currently amended): The server according to claim 15 wherein said sending means encrypts the data ~~associated with the storage request~~ using an encryption method corresponding to the ~~at least one data server~~ servers selected by said select means.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The server according to claim 15, wherein the service subscription qualification level is determined based on a subscription fee for a service.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The server according to claim 15, wherein the service subscription qualification level is determined based on a service subscription term.

Claim 20-21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (previously presented): The server according to claim 15, wherein said select means selects a data server with a lowest suffering risk from the plurality of data servers corresponding to the service subscription qualification level of the user who issued the storage request, and a server with a lowest suffering risk of the data servers in a different area from the area of user's address registered by the user who issued the storage request.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The server according to claim 15, wherein when the user's service subscription qualification level has changed, said select means re-selects the ~~at least one data server~~ servers, and said sending means sends the data ~~associated with the storage request~~ again to the ~~at least one data server~~ servers re-selected by said select means.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The server according to claim 15, wherein said select means re-selects the ~~at least one~~ data server servers in accordance with a change in disaster information, and said sending means sends the data ~~associated with the storage request~~ again to the ~~at least one~~ data server servers re-selected by said select means.

Claim 25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (currently amended): The server according to claim 15, further comprising checking means for checking authenticity of the data stored in the ~~at least one~~ data server.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The server according to claim 26, wherein said checking means checks authenticity by comparing data which are associated with an identical storage request and are stored in a ~~plurality~~ of the data servers.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The server according to claim 26, wherein said checking means checks if data becomes fraudulent due to a memory medium.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The server according to claim 26, wherein said checking means checks if data becomes fraudulent due to tampering of data.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The server according to claim 29, wherein when said checking means determines that the data becomes fraudulent due to tampering of data, said checking means sends a message indicating this to a client terminal that issued the storage request of the data.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The server according to claim 15, further comprising authentication means for authenticating if the user who issued the storage request is a member who subscribes to the service, and accepts only the storage request from the user authenticated by said authentication means.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The server according to claim 15, further comprising authentication means for checking authenticity of the ~~at least one~~ data server selected by said select means, and said sending means sends data ~~associated with the storage request~~ in only the data server servers authenticated by said authentication means.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The server according to claim 15, further comprising notify means for sending at least various storage condition data associated with a data storage process to a client terminal that issued the storage request.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The server according to claim 33, wherein said notify means sends encryption algorithm and key data in addition to storage location data of the data associated with the storage request as the storage condition data.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The server according to claim 33, wherein the client device includes storage means for storing at least the storage condition data sent from said notify means.

Claim 36-37 (canceled).

Claim 38 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the server automatically selects the ~~at least one~~ data server servers based on the user's service subscription qualification level in the select step.

Claim 39-60 (canceled).

Claim 61 (currently amended): The system according to claim 14, wherein said select means automatically selects the ~~at least one~~ data server servers based on the user's service subscription qualification level.

Claim 62-83 (canceled).

Appl. No. 10/057,255

Paper dated July 13, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated April 13, 2006

Claim 84 (currently amended): The computer program according to claim 13, wherein said select means automatically selects the ~~at least one data server~~ servers based on the user's service subscription qualification level.